

CARMELA

Thank you for these wonderful pancakes, Mamí. They look so delicious.

BIG BROTHER

They have chocolate chips in them.

MAMÍ

Ay, it's supposed to be a surprise.

BIG BROTHER

Sorry.

MAMÍ

Make a wish, mijita. [my daughter]

CARMELA

But my wish already came true.

BIG BROTHER

You haven't even blown out the candles. How could it come true?

CARMELA

(To AUDIENCE)

This morning,
the very first thing I did
before opening my eyes,
I made a wish.
I wished to be old enough
to go to la lavandería [laundromat]
with my big brother.
Every time he goes,
he doesn't want me to go with him.
He always says...

BIG BROTHER

You're too little.

CARMELA

But not any more, big brother.
Mamá said
I could go
When I turn seven.
Today is that day!

*CARMELA blows out the candles and
takes a bite of the pancakes.*

CARMELA

These are so delicious, Mamí.

BIG BROTHER

Here you go.